

Entered  
Rule 312  
D.R.  
3/3/05

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 26 as follows:

Referring now to the cover 5, as shown in FIG. 1, the three pressure-application members 7-1, 7-2, 7-3 are attached to the "inner" surface of the cover 5. In this embodiment four possible mounting locations 25 are provided for attachment of the pressure-application members 7: two mounting locations at left in FIG. 1, and two mounting locations at right in FIG. 1. Only three mounting locations 25 (one for each pressure-application member) typically are used in a particular pod 1. As shown in FIG. 4 FIG. 4(A), the mounting locations 25 are formed more thickly than other portions of the cover for extra strength and rigidity. Each mounting location 25 includes a respective screw hole 27 for mounting, as applicable, a respective pressure-application member 7.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 15, as follows:

Referring further to FIG. 4 FIG. 4(A), each pressure-application member 7 in the depicted embodiment comprises a base portion 29, a flat spring 31 of which a proximal end is mounted to the base portion 29 so that the flat spring 31 extends from the base portion 29 in a cantilever manner, and a reticle-contact member 33 attached to the distal end of the flat spring 31. The base portion 29 is secured to the "lower" surface of a respective mounting location 25 by a screw 35 or analogous fastener extending through the respective screw hole 27. An O-ring 37 is interposed between the "upper" surface of the base portion 29 and the "lower" surface of the mounting location 25 to provide a seal against debris that otherwise could enter the pod 1 through a gap between the screw 35 and the wall of the screw hole 27.